

## Abstract

The present invention primarily relates to a DNA fragment which is obtainable from the gene cluster responsible for rifamycin biosynthesis within the genome of *Amycolatopsis mediterranei*, and comprises at least one gene or a part of a gene which codes for a polypeptide which is directly or indirectly involved in the biosynthesis of rifamycin, and to a method for preparing said DNA fragment.

The present invention furthermore relates to recombinant DNA molecules which comprise one of the DNA fragments according to the invention, and to the plasmids and vectors derived therefrom. Host organisms transformed with said plasmid or vector DNA are likewise embraced.